

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01402 291630Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 ACDA-07 SY-05 USSS-00 SSM-03  
/072 W  
-----300403Z 028099 /22

R 291548Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3481  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 1402

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, MILI, LE  
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS

1. I HAVE JUST (MARCH 29) COME FROM VISIT TO FOREIGN MINISTER FOUAD BOUTROS'S RESIDENCE IN ASHRAFIYAH. HE LIVES IN VERY ELEGANT APARTMENT ON TOP TWO FLOORS (SIXTH AND SEVENTH) OF HIS OWN BUILDING. BOMB WAS SET OFF IN HALLWAY JUST OUTSIDE SERVICE ENTRANCE ON SEVENTH FLOOR. EXPLOSION RIPPED OUT MOST OF PARTITION WALLS ON THAT FLOOR AND SHATTERED EVERY WINDOW ON BOTH FLOORS. BOMB WAS NOT IN ELEVATOR AS ORIGINALLY ANNOUNCED, BUT WAS NEXT TO ELEVATOR SHAFT, AND ELEVATOR CAR PRACTICALLY DESTROYED. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DESTRUCTION ON SIXTH FLOOR AS WELL, WHERE THE BOUTROSES WERE SLEEPING, BUT THEIR BEDROOMS WERE FORTUNATELY AT OTHER END OF APARTMENT FROM SERVICE ENTRANCE.

2. I TOLD BOUTROS THAT WE HAD HEARD PEOPLE WERE MUTTERING THREATS AGAINST HIM BUT REALLY DID NOT THINK ANYONE WOULD GO THAT FAR. I ASKED HIM WHAT

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01402 291630Z

HAPPENED TO GUARD ON BUILDING, AND HE REPLIED THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN ONE. THEY DID NOT EVEN LOCK THEIR DOORS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD NO PERSONAL ENEMIES AND COULD NOT IMAGINE THAT ANYONE WOULD TRY TO KILL HIM. HE HAS NOW, SOMEWHAT BELATEDLY, INSTALLED GUARDS.

3. WHILE BOMBING COMES IN CONTEXT OF OPEN  
OPPOSITION TO CHANGE IN ARMY COMMAND WHICH IS  
HEADED BY CHAMOUN AND BECHIR GEMAYEL WING OF  
PHALANGE, VIEWS ARE DIVIDED AS TO WHETHER IT WAS  
WORK OF DISGRUNTLED ARMY PERSONNEL OR POLITICAL  
EXTREMISTS. IN ANY EVENT IT ILLUSTRATES CURRENT  
LEVEL OF CIVIC IRRESPONSIBILITY AND LENGTHS TO  
WHICH CURRENT POLITICAL ILL WILL CARRIES PEOPLE.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, BOMBING, THREATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BEIRUT01402  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation Code IDs:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** f250a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2970271  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS  
**TAGS:** PINS, MILI, LE, (BOUTROS, FOUAD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f250a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009